

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

HB 286 - SB 449

March 7, 2013

SUMMARY OF BILL: Requires the county election commission office, or any polling place designated by the county election commission, to open each weekday between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. and open on Saturdays between 9:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. during the early voting period. Requires the county election commission office to remain open between 5:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. at least two days during the early voting period for certain elections.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Expenditures –

\$160,000/FY15-16 and Every Four Years Thereafter

Increase Local Expenditures –

\$160,000/FY13-14 and Every Four Years Thereafter

\$320,000/FY14-15 and Every Two Years Thereafter

Assumptions:

- Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 2-6-103, currently polling places are required to remain open for a minimum of three consecutive hours each weekday, including Saturdays, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. during the early voting period. The bill will extend these hours.
- According to the Division of Elections, the cost of increasing early voting polling hours will cost approximately \$159,982 per election.
- Elections are held in cycles; every two years elections are held in August and November. Every four years a Presidential Preference Primary (PPP) is held, with an election in May occurring every four years in which a PPP is not held. Local governments will be responsible for all costs associated with elections held in years which do not contain a PPP election.
- According to the Division of Elections, the increase in local expenditures for FY13-14, and every four years thereafter, will be \$159,982 as a result of elections occurring in May. The increase in local expenditures for FY14-15, and every two years thereafter, will be \$319,964 as a result of elections occurring in August and November.
- According to the Division of Elections, the state pays for all costs associated with the PPP election; resulting in an increase in state expenditures of \$159,982 in FY15-16 and every four years thereafter.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lucian D. Geise". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Lucian" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Geise".

Lucian D. Geise, Executive Director

/jrh